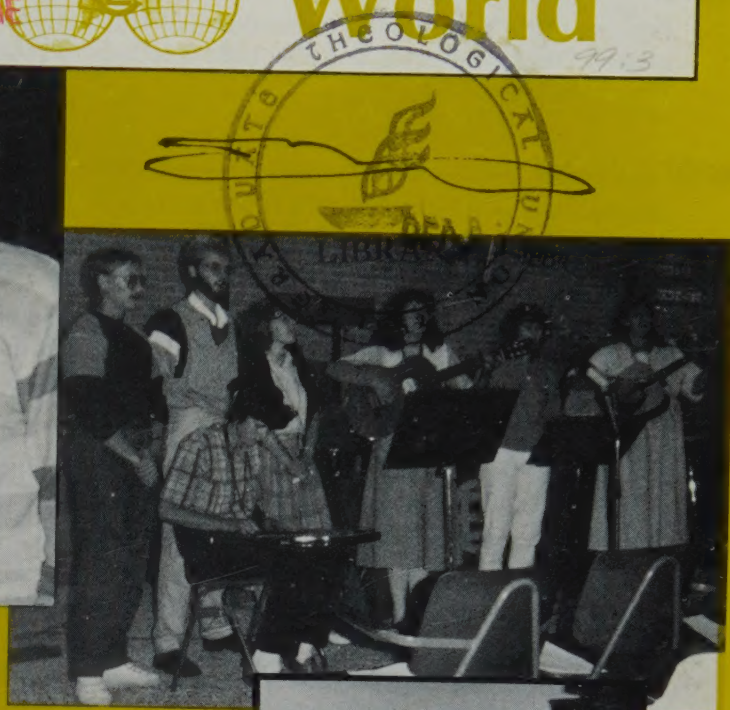


# THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR



## World



*World's Union  
Meeting & International Fellowship Tour*



# THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORLD

THE VOICE OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR

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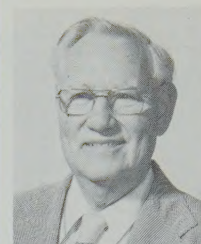
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Volume 99

Number 3

Fall 1984

### Editor & Publisher

David G. Jackson

The CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORLD (ISSN0009-5338) is published quarterly by the International Society of Christian Endeavor, 1221 East Broad Street, P.O. Box 1110, Columbus, Ohio 43216

Second-class postage paid at Columbus, Ohio

Printed in USA



# Spotlighting...



**CLYDE MEADOWS**

A former president of both the World's Christian Endeavor Union and the International Society of Christian Endeavor, Clyde has held many elected and appointed positions in Christian Endeavor from the local society, as a young person, through district, state, national, and worldwide levels. He currently is a member of the Executive Committee of the World's Christian Endeavor Union and holds the position of Honorary President for Life. He also is active in the International Society as a Life Trustee and as a Trustee of the Extension and Perpetuation Fund.

Clyde is a graduate of Huntington College and Huntington College Theological Seminary located in Huntington, Indiana. For thirty-three years he served as Pastor of the King Street United Brethren in Christ Church in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, and for most of those years also was Conference Superintendent in the Pennsylvania Conference of the Church of United Brethren in Christ. He also served as Bishop of this denomination for eight years.

For many years Clyde has been a member of the Board of Directors and Director of the Department of Evangelism for the Pennsylvania State Sabbath School Association.

He and his wife, Phyllis, currently reside in Columbus, Ohio.



**PHYLLIS MEADOWS**

As Treasurer of the World's Christian Endeavor Union, Phyllis continues her many years of faithful and loyal service to Christ and His Church through Christian Endeavor.

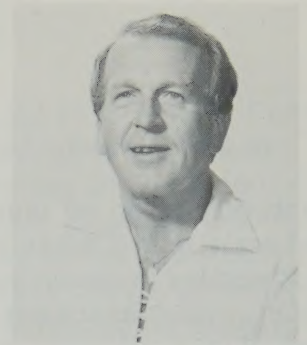
A graduate of Central High School and Bliss Business College, both located in Columbus, Phyllis served for thirty years as an employee of the International Society of Christian Endeavor.

After serving for a number of years as assistant to the General Secretary, in 1956 she was named to the position of Executive Assistant and in 1960 was named Administrative Secretary. In 1967 she was named Treasurer and Clerk of the Corporation. For twenty years Phyllis served as Editor of THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR WORLD.

In 1967 Phyllis was named Executive Secretary and Clerk and in 1970 became Treasurer of the World's Christian Endeavor Union.

She currently serves as Treasurer of the Fred L. Ball Trust Fund of the Ohio Christian Endeavor Union and as a Trustee of the Extension and Perpetuation Fund of the International Society. Phyllis continues to be active in both Franklin County and Ohio Christian Endeavor activities.

She and her husband, Clyde, are members of the First United Brethren in Christ Church, Columbus, Ohio.



**CLYDE SHERK**

A member of the Executive and Finance Committees of the World's Christian Endeavor Union, Clyde has been involved in the work of Christian Endeavor in many capacities.

Born in Ontario, Canada, Clyde is a graduate of Port Colborne High School and is a member of the Grace United Brethren in Christ Church in Sherkston. He has recently retired from his position as Salary Administrator from the John Deere Company Welland Works in Welland, Ontario.

Clyde is a member of the Board of Trustees of both the International Society and the World's Christian Endeavor Union. He also is a member of the Canadian Christian Endeavor Union Executive Committee.

A former Vice-President and Assistant Treasurer of the World's Union, Clyde also has served as a Vice-President of the International Society, President of the Welland County Union, the Ontario Union and the Canadian Christian Endeavor Union.

Clyde also has been very active in his local church serving as Sunday School Superintendent, Vacation Bible School director and teacher, Sunday school teacher, member of the Church Administrative Board and President of the church choir.

He currently resides in Welland, Ontario, Canada.



# International Prayer Assembly Seoul, Korea

June 5-11, 1984

by James Murdoch

Church growth on an unprecedented scale; from 3 million to 10 million Christians in eleven years; a city of 8½ million inhabitants and one-third of them belonging to the Christian faith! Such was the setting for the first International Prayer Assembly for World Evangelization. Seoul, Korea, was chosen as the venue because 1984 marks the 100th anniversary of the coming of protestant missions to that land, and also to give those who attended the Assembly the opportunity to see and experience the unparalleled prayer emphasis and evidences of Christian revival in this nation. Running concurrently with it was a three day (and night!) Prayer and Fasting Rally in a large park by the river. On the opening night 7,000 gathered in the park to listen to addresses from 7 pm to midnight in drenching rain, 30,000 were present for the next 24 hours, and for the final night an estimated 150,000 attended.

## PRAYER FOR REVIVAL

International speakers addressed the assembly on "The Cost of Revival," "The Means for Revival," "The Fruits of Revival," and "The Continuation of Revival." The opening message on "Revival through Prayer" was delivered by Dr. Park Cho Choon, pastor of one of the largest churches in the world, into which thousands queue up to attend the six Sunday services which overflow from the main building to the many halls and teaching rooms to share in the worship by closed-circuit television. Dr. Park informed us that his

church was started by 27 refugees from North Korea in 1945 and has grown in 39 years to be now touching the lives of 60,000 people. The prayer life of the church consists of—a daybreak prayer meeting *every day at 5 A.M.*; *two* on Wednesday nights; one on Fridays at noon; and an *all-night* prayer meeting also on Friday from midnight to 5 A.M. This is the model for most of the churches in Korea, and they will tell you that this emphasis on corporate prayer coupled with a strong evangelistic witness is the main reason for the fantastic church growth shared by all the denominations.

## SHARING TOGETHER IN PRAYER

After the address we had a time of "Open" prayer for revival. "Open" in the sense that *everyone* prayed out loud by joining hands with the person next to them and praying alternately with them for a period of 15 to 20 minutes. If you could have walked into that church packed with 4,000 people, you would have seen an amazing sight and heard such a cacophony of sound as people from 70 nations intermingled and prayed with one another. The young Korean pastor with whom I linked hands gripped me so tightly and prayed so earnestly that although I did not understand his words, I could feel the fervent desire in his heart to see the lost brought to a saving knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ and delivered from sin's condemnation.

## TIME SPENT IN PRAYER

What marked out this assembly

from all others I have attended was that we not only heard messages on prayer, talked and thought about prayer, but in every session and workshop were given time to spend *actually praying* in twos, threes, and sometimes more. I was the only delegate present from Scotland (there were only eight of us from Britain), so the prayer times were always shared with someone from another country and what precious times they proved to be. We besieged the Throne of Grace for the salvation of the world, and pleaded with the Lord for an awakening in our own nations as was so evidently taking place in Korea. We also responded to the "Call to Prayer" presented to us before the close of the assembly and covenanted to return home more committed "to become prayer warriors for spiritual awakening and world evangelization."

Going to Korea is something very special and the opportunity provided by the next World's Christian Endeavor Convention being held there in August 1986 is one I would urge you to "move heaven and earth" in an endeavor to be there. To see and hear firsthand what God is doing through His Church and in Christian Endeavor will be an experience you will never forget. It will be more than just a holiday—it will be an investment which will bear fruit for the rest of your life and in eternity.

One possibility is the schedule I followed this time, going via Paris to Seoul (with a touch-down in Anchorage, Alaska), and returning via Hong Kong. If interested, contact your national or state union to find out what they are planning or write to me in Killin, Scotland.



# BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Approximately seventy-five leaders from the United States and Canada participated in the annual meeting of the Board of Trustees of the International Society of Christian Endeavor, October 11-14, 1984, in Columbus, Ohio.

The sessions were opened on Thursday evening with a devotional challenge presented by Carolyn Arthur, Assistant Dean of Student Affairs at Bluffton College, Bluffton, Ohio, who challenged us to be "stepping stones" rather than "stumbling blocks." She reminded us that "stumbling blocks" are a hindrance and impede progress—such as the tendency to sit back and do nothing, to put the blame on someone else, or to share our beliefs without living them—while "stepping stones" facilitate passage—through our service, our sacrifices, and our smiles.

The devotional periods on Friday and Saturday mornings were led by Barbara Dority, Roanoke, Virginia, and Larry Clark, Columbus, Ohio, both trustees of the International Society.

Barbara encouraged us to "Enlarge Our Vision" by enlarging our vision of ourselves and Larry encouraged us to be obedient to God—even to obedience unto death. Marvin Easter and Mrs. Jane Bartholomew served as song leader and pianist throughout the Board sessions.

Rev. Roger D. Vander Kolk, pastor of the Haven Reformed Church, Hamilton, Michigan, directed our thinking during four sessions developing the Christian Endeavor biennial theme, "Lord Our Vision Enlarge." Using each of the sub-themes: (1) By Providing Us the Example, (2) By Putting Us Under Pressure, (3) By Prodding

Us into Action, and (4) By Perfecting Us in Love—he stated that this theme is an impassionate plea that gives personal instruction in a collective way, is penetrating in scope and provocative in nature. Christ gave us an example which is perfect and that our example is the cross, and love is the glue which holds it all together.

Information about the Michigan 85 International Convention was shared by Dr. Kent Maxwell, Program Committee Chairman, and Ernest Overkamp, Chairman of the Local Committee. A film presentation of Hope College also was shown. Plans for attending the 58th International Convention were shared by a number of state delegations and all trustees were encouraged to promote the participation of young people and youth groups from their areas.

Several sessions were devoted to enlarging our vision through revitalizing our local societies, county and state unions, and interdenominational relationships.

Rev. Richard Cattermole, Administrator for the Evangelical Congregational Church, shared thoughts on enlarging our vision by reaching out to others. He stated that God has intended us to do more than we either attempt or think. He remarked that our vision should be enlarged by believing enough to obey God, being big enough to honor God, and bold enough to require God's leadership. He challenged us to think of ways that we see the International Society reaching out to include others.

County unions should fulfill a definite purpose and not just be a tool to provide another activity to involve young people and their

leaders in Christian Endeavor according to Jeff Peiffer, Field Secretary of the Pennsylvania Christian Endeavor Union. He reminded us that in revitalizing county unions change is inevitable and that we should be endeavoring to effect positive change which produces growth. We must create visibility with adequate promotion ahead of time, must be important enough to encourage participation, and must be organized well enough to insure success. It should be a fulfilling experience for all who participate.

A member of the Educational Committee, Don Vespremi, led a presentation on revitalizing our local societies. In making contacts he reminded us that we should (1) assume nothing, (2) be prepared, (3) contact the pastor first, (4) present Christian Endeavor, (5) be flexible, (6) accept reality, (7) do adequate follow-up, (8) allow time for growth, (9) accept others as they are, and (10) integrate them into the program. Promote the uniqueness of Christian Endeavor and point out what you have to offer that others may not include in their programming.

To revitalize our state unions, Barbara Cover and Donna Straight, President and Field Secretary of the West Virginia Christian Endeavor Union, compared ingredients necessary to those used in making a tossed salad. They said that the main ingredient is commitment to Christ and that you must use both young people and adults in planning and programming. Involving the people who have been elected to state offices also is an important ingredient. The right ingredients are im-

*(Continued on Page 7)*



# Not Conformed, But Transformed, To Perform

Romans 12: 1, 2

*by Rev. Clemens B. Farver, pastor  
Maysville Community Church  
Greenville, Pennsylvania*

The twelfth chapter of Romans is known as the Christian Endeavor chapter of the Bible and is memorized by many Christian Endeavorers. It's a marvelous chapter that we ought to refer to often. This morning we'll consider the first two verses.

The Apostle Paul begins by speaking of the mercies of God. Have you ever taken time to thank God for His mercies to you? A woman noted for her sweet and cheerful presence said she "kept a pleasure book." These were some of the entries: "Saw a beautiful lily in the window,—Talked to a bright, happy girl,—Received a kind letter from a dear friend,—Enjoyed a beautiful sunset,—Husband brought some roses home to me." Jeremiah, the weeping prophet, writes in his Lamentations, chapter three, verses 21-23, "This I recall to my mind; therefore have I hope. It is the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning; great is thy faithfulness!"

I wonder how many of us have thought to thank God for our two good eyes, two legs and arms that move in many positions—all because of the mercies of God.

And then the apostle speaks about presenting your bodies a living sacrifice. Do you know that people today are more body conscious than ever before? We hear of body wraps, body design, body lotions, and fitness centers—all to make

the body look better. But the Apostle Paul in I Corinthians 6: 19, 20 writes "What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and you are not your own? For you are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's." The Psalmist David speaks in Psalm 139:14, "I will praise Thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvelous are thy works: and that my soul knoweth right well."

It is predicted that 34,000 American women will die with lung cancer in 1984. Women live longer than men because men have smoked more than women but that is going to change for now more women and young girls are smoking. Thirty years from now, if the trend continues, men will out-live women. Young people, the answer is to give your body to Christ. Presenting yourself before the Lord in prayer with knee bends will do more for you than jogging and body design. He wants your body now—not when it's old and worn out with age. Billy Sunday said he had not much faith in the deathbed confession. "That's just like burning the candle on both ends and then blowing the smoke in God's face." As the hymn says, "Give of your best to the Master; Give of the strength of your youth." Is this too much to ask? No. The Scripture says this is your reasonable service. God never asks anything unreasonable of us. He is a God of wisdom, a God of love. He doesn't drive us but leads us gently along.

Romans 12, verse 2 says, "Be not conformed to this world but be transformed." Someone has rightly

said, "We forfeit three-fourths of ourselves in order to be like other people." But transforming power comes from the Lord Jesus Christ. Isaiah 1:18 reads, "Come now, and let us reason together, saith the Lord: though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be white as snow; though they be red like crimson, they shall be as wool." Through the living sacrifice of the Lord Jesus on the cross shedding His precious blood we can be cleansed from our sins and forgiven and changed and accepted for the service of Christ and the Church. Don't let the world squeeze you into its mold. As the hymn writer puts it, "Be like Jesus, this my song, in the home and in the throng . . . I would be like Jesus."

The assumption that human beings are born to be happy is scarcely questioned by anyone in today's society, and the effect of this modern thinking is felt even among the people of God. The Gospel is too often presented as a means toward happiness, to peace of mind, or as security. There are those who use the Bible to relax them, as if it were a drug. God is more concerned with the state of peoples' hearts than with the state of their feelings. It is true that doing the will of God brings final happiness to those who obey, but it is not the goal of obedience. Go to God and tell Him your desire to be holy at any cost, and then ask Him never to give you more happiness than holiness. In the book of I Samuel, chapter 15, we read of King Saul's incomplete obedience to God. God had told him to utterly destroy Amalek and everything in it, yet Saul spared King Agag and



took the best of the sheep and oxen for himself. Samuel told him, "Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams. For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as iniquity and idolatry." There are two kinds of pillars in the church, the pillars that hold it up and the caterpillars who go in and out. The world says, "take it easy," like the television ad showing the fellow lying in the hammock and his wife comes along and gives him a cold glass of lemonade. He says, "What do you want me to do, mow the lawn?" And she walks around on the other side and lays down and says, "No, I'm going to watch it grow with you."

And so Paul writes, "be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable and perfect will of God." A little boy asked his father what *trans* meant. The father was reading the evening paper and he said, "*across*." A little later the boy asked, "What does trans-Atlantic mean?" "It means *across the Atlantic*." "Does it always mean across?" the boy asked. "Yes," said his father, "Now keep quiet!" Awhile later the boy said, "I guess then that transparent means a cross parent." A bad disposition has been called the "vice of the virtuous." It is time we Christians stop trying to excuse our un-Christlike dispositions and frankly admit our failure to live as we should.

John Wesley said, "We will not injure the cause of Christ and the Church by admitting our sins—but we sure can by denying them." Just so there is no misunderstanding, let us name a few: sensitiveness, irritability, faultfinding, temper, resentmentfulness, cruelty, uncharitableness and peevishness. These and other bad attitudes kill the spirit of the church and slow down the progress of the Gospel in a community. Many persons, who have been secretly longing to find

Christ, have been turned away, embittered, by manifestations of an ugly disposition in the very lives of persons trying to win them.

I remember reading about Ruth Narramore telling about her daughter Melodie while doing her undergraduate study at the university in the field of art. Melodie made a beautiful plaster model of a fellow classmate. It was displayed grandly on a pedestal in their home. One day it was knocked off onto the floor and broken in many pieces. The person who had knocked it down helped sweep it up and wanted to throw it away, but Mrs. Narramore saved the pieces in a box. Later, wondering what she could give Melodie for her birthday, she thought of those pieces still in the box. She got them out and started putting them

together with painstaking care. To her surprise, when it was finished, there was not a sign of a flaw or crack. Melodie and all who saw it said, "It's a miracle." Mrs. Narramore said it reminded her how God first made us, perfect, after His own likeness, but mankind sinned and therefore fell and marred the image. But God in His goodness and mercy has redeemed us through the gift of His Son that we might trust in the Lord Jesus Christ and be conformed to the image of His Son. "For by grace are ye saved through faith, and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God."

When we have refused to conform to this world and have allowed ourselves to be transformed by His power—then He will equip us to perform—to serve, for Christ and the Church.

## BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

(Continued from Page 5)

portant and must be "tossed gently" to make certain all ingredients blend together properly.

A Fellowship Banquet was held on Friday evening at Calvin Presbyterian Church in Columbus. Lavern Billig, immediate Past President of the International Society, served as emcee. Highlights of Charles Barner's years of service as General Secretary were shown through a slide presentation prepared by Oreon Fields, and a plaque recognizing his service was displayed. Marvin Easter, Associate President, presented a vocal solo and Rev. Ralph Robrahn, Pastor of the Fairview Reformed Church, Grand Rapids, Michigan, presented a challenging devotional message on "Lord Our Vision Enlarge."

Each session included reports of state and provincial union activities by leaders representing the various unions present. Events of the past year along with upcoming activities highlighted the variety in program activities in the various

unions. Field work activities were emphasized throughout these reports with several unions reporting that they have employed field workers to assist with Christian Endeavor outreach in their respective areas.

Margaret Clarkson, President of the Canadian Christian Endeavor Union, presented a report on the World's Union Board meetings held in September in Amerongen, The Netherlands, and also highlights of the International Passion Play Tour from which 98 persons had just returned.

To conclude the Trustees meetings, a Christian Endeavor meeting was conducted by the youth delegates under the direction of Marvin Easter. Delegates present were divided into groups and discussed various ways that Trustees could be more effective in communicating needs and interests between the International Society and their local areas. The meeting was concluded with a Fellowship Circle of prayer.





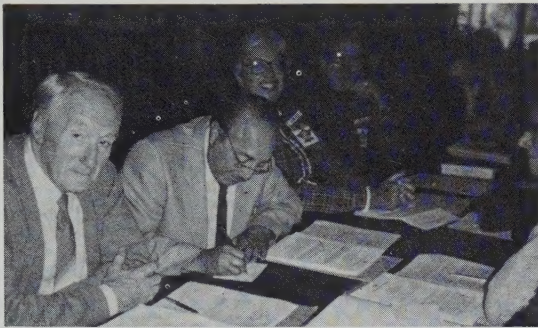
# World's Union Meeting '84



*World's Union leaders assembled at Amerongen.*



*JOY IN JESUS, a musical group representing Belgium International meetings.*



*Council members share in a business session.*

Christian Endeavor leaders from around the world gathered together at Amerongen, The Netherlands, for the annual meeting of the World's Christian Endeavor Union Board of Trustees. The sessions, held September 15-19, were hosted by The Netherlands Christian Endeavor Union at the Zendings-Diaconessenhuis of the Marburg Mission.

Prior to the opening of the business sessions, a weekend of inspirational services was held at the Public Hall of Amerongen.

Delegates from Germany, Belgium, the United States, and Canada met together with Endeavorers from The Netherlands and the World's Union Board members for an International Service of Praise on Saturday evening. "Joy in Jesus," a musical group from Belgium, the German Christian Endeavor Quartet, and a Christian Endeavor youth choir



*Amerongen Endeavorers sharing in song.*



*Greetings from the German Democratic Republic.*

from Amerongen provided special music. Delegates were welcomed by Guert van Viegen, Secretary of The Netherlands Christian Endeavor Union and a devotional challenge was presented by Rev. Konrad Brandt, Vice-President of the World's Christian Endeavor Union.

On Sunday the delegates reconvened for a morning worship service. Hank Rogeven, President of The Netherlands Christian Endeavor Union, directed the service and Rev. James Murdoch, World's Union President, delivered the morning message. Special music again was provided by the "Joy in Jesus" singers, the German C.E. Quartet, and the Amerongen youth choir.

A Christian Endeavor Rally, held Sunday afternoon, brought to a climax the activities of the weekend. The musical groups again brought messages in song and testimonies were shared by Bidyut K. Pramanik (India) and Burkhardt Weber (Ger-





*Deaconess choir participating in an evening rally.*



*Eurt Van Viegen, Margaret Clarkson and hik participate in a Council meeting.*



*Charles and Etta Barner are recognized by President Jim Murdoch.*

many) both members of the World's Union Board of Trustees, and Charles W. Barner, former General Secretary of the World's Union. Margaret Clarkson, President of the Canadian Christian En-

deavor Union, presided, and Rev. David Jackson, General Secretary of the World's Union brought the afternoon message.

On Monday the World's Union Council convened in a special-called meeting to receive a report on proposed changes in the bylaws regarding elections; proposed procedures for the Nominating Committee; and proposed rules for election. The Council voted to adopt the recommended bylaws change and adopted procedures for the Nominating Committee and Rules for Election.

The annual meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on Tuesday and Wednesday. Reports from the various officers were heard highlighting activities of the past year.

President Murdoch reported on his travels to the United States, throughout the British Isles, to the International Prayer Assembly in Seoul, Korea, and the German Christian Endeavor Convention in Bad Liebenzell. Vice-President Konrad Brandt shared his experiences from his trip to India, Korea, and Taiwan. Area II General Secretary James Heron reported on his contacts with various unions in Area II and a proposed trip to Spain and Portugal.

The Board reviewed plans for the 20th World's Convention to be held in Seoul, Korea, August 6-9, 1986. Among the features to be included in the program are a Worldwide Communion Service, sessions on worldwide relationships, Bible study groups, and a roll call of nations. Featured program personalities will include Rev. James Murdoch, World's Union President, and Rev. Arno Pagel and Dr. Clyde W. Meadows, Honorary Presidents for Life.

Bishop A. A. Akpan gave a report on the status of Christian Endeavor in Nigeria and Cameroon. He reported that the Christian Endeavor is growing rapidly in both of these countries. It was agreed to adapt the Australian Union concept for promotion of the International Year of the Youth and circulate these materials to national and international unions.

The General Secretary reported that the Executive Committee had voted to recognize the Christian Endeavor societies of the Presbyterian Church in New Zealand (Pacific Islanders Church) as the New Zealand Christian Endeavor Union and the Christian Endeavor societies of the Marburg Mission in Brazil as the Brazilian Christian Endeavor Union. Inquiries also have been received from Liberia, Zambia, Ghana and South Africa regarding membership in the World's Christian Endeavor Union.

A concluding Christian Endeavor Rally was held Wednesday evening at the "DeArk" Dutch Reformed Church. Joel Delvis, Vice-President of the World's Union, presided and a Deaconess Choir from Amerongen and the Amerongen Endeavor singers provided special music. Greetings from Bishop Albert Akpan (Nigeria) and Günter Neumann from the German Democratic Republic preceded the closing devotional message by Rev. James Carson (Northern Ireland), a member of the World's Union Board of Trustees.



# Seventeen Eventful Days!

On Friday evening, September 14, eighty-four persons left Kennedy Airport in New York City en route to Schiphol Airport in Amsterdam to begin an eventful seventeen-day Passion Play Tour. Leaving behind three tour party members who were delayed in arrival in New York and scheduled to meet an additional 11 persons in Amsterdam we settled down for the overnight flight to Europe. During an intermediate stop in Madrid to change planes we discovered that the continuation of our flight to Amsterdam had been cancelled due to a strike of airplane mechanics. Thus began the process of transferring these eighty-four passengers and their luggage to another carrier for the remainder of the flight to Amsterdam. The language barrier and rebooking finally being resolved, we started on the final leg of this journey nearly five hours late. Upon arrival in Amsterdam, we saw the relieved expressions on the faces of those who had been waiting at the airport for our arrival—some for nearly twelve hours.

After clearing customs and loading our luggage on our buses, we headed for our hotels. A number of us shared in the International Meeting at Amerongen that evening when musical groups from Germany, The Netherlands, and Belgium presented an inspiring program of Christian music. Then we headed back to our hotels for a good night's rest.

Sunday morning we attended the worship service in Amerongen with Rev. James Murdoch, President of the World's Union, presenting a challenging message, and then following lunch, participated in an afternoon Christian Endeavor rally featuring Endeavorers from around the world. Rev. David Jackson, General Secretary, gave the devotional challenge.

On Monday we began our touring in The Netherlands with a trip to Oudewater and the Zaanse Schans north of Amsterdam. On Tuesday our trip took us to Friesland where we visited with Joke Schout, pastor of small Dutch Reformed Churches in the area, and saw the beautiful countryside. The next day took us to Delft, Gouda, and Rotterdam.

Picking up several members of our tour party who had been involved in the World's Union meetings in Amerongen, we headed across the border into Germany and a visit to Cologne.

One of the highlights of the tour was a cruise on the Rhine River through a most scenic area which included the Lorelei. The beautiful hillside castles and small villages dotting the shore will long be remembered. After departing from the cruise we headed to the famous walled city of Rothenberg where time was spent visiting historic sights and shopping.

Following an all-day bus trip into Bavaria we arrived in Oberammergau to the breathtaking beauty of the Bavarian Alps. Spending the night with local residents or in quaint hotels, we arose early the following morning in anticipation of viewing the long-awaited performance of the Passion Play. This five-hour production with its tableaux from the Old Testament and dramatic portrayal of New Testament events, lived up to all our expectations as we relived together with the actors and villagers the final events in the life of Christ.

The next several days were spent touring throughout the beautiful Bavarian hillside as we visited the exquisite fairy tale castles of King Ludwig II, Garmisch-Partenkirchen, sight of the 1936 Olympic Games, and an all-day visit to Lake Constance and Liechtenstein. Though the weather

was rainy and dreary throughout these days, the beautiful sights were not dampened and we will long remember the snow-capped Alps and quaint villages through which we passed.

As we left Bavaria, we entered into Switzerland passing along the Bodensee on our way to Zurich and Lucerne. Members of the tour party found Lucerne an excellent place for shopping and the collecting of souvenirs and a number enjoyed an evening cruise on the river which flowed serenely beside our hotels.

Leaving Lucerne, we flew to Madrid for an overnight stop before returning to New York. Again, the language barrier complicated our communication with the nationals and their carefree life style was somewhat different from what we are used to. Several groups hailed cabs and had a rapid tour of Madrid before we gathered together for a final meal and time of fellowship at one of the neighboring hotels.

On Sunday morning we again headed for the airport only to discover that our flight home would be delayed several hours. This meant that connecting flights and other New York connections would be in jeopardy. As we arrived at Kennedy and bid our goodbyes we discovered that tour party members making connecting flights would need to be rebooked for departure Monday morning.

However, regardless of any minor difficulties we encountered, we long will remember the people we met, the places we visited, the hotels in which we stayed, the times of fellowship we shared together in our meetings and on the buses, as the tie that bound us together during the seventeen eventful days we spent together in Europe.



## Bits and Pieces



Paul Burke, Sr., immediate past-president, New York State Christian Endeavor Union, Inc. as he receives Oneida silver plate. The plate was engraved in commemoration of his thirteen years as Summer Assembly Camp Director.

Paul and his wife Pat have contributed much to the New York State summer camp program at Le Tourneau Christian Camp on Canandaigua Lake, Rushville, New York. He and Pat, along with their children, have been an inspiration to many Christian Endeavor youth and a blessing to all. His leadership will be missed as he steps down from this post. Pat and Paul will remain on in the camp program to lend their experience and love.

Paul Burke will be succeeded in this post by Rev. William T. Bengston, pastor of the Dutch Reformed Church of Woodstock, New York.

The Burke family have been active through the years in the First Church of Evans, Derby, New York, and throughout the state and

international ministry of Christian Endeavor as well. It was with gratitude and love that he was presented this commemorative plate to say thank you and well done!

\* \* \* \* \*

A Retirement Dinner was held for Rev. Warren E. Darnell and his wife Dorothy on September 23, 1984, at the Villa Bianca Restaurant in Flushing, New York. Mr. Darnell has served as pastor to the Community Church of Little Neck, New York, for fifty-three years. Through all these years he has been a Christian Endeavor pastor and has maintained a Christian Endeavor group in his church throughout his career.

Mr. Darnell has served faithfully on the board of the New York State Christian Endeavor Union for many years and in many capacities. At the present time he serves on the Board of Trustees and as Chairman of the Outreach Scholarship Fund Committee. It would be impossible to name all the things he has done over the years to make New York a great Christian Endeavor state.

In recognition of all his labors he was presented with a commemorative plate and a check at the recent Eastern Regional Convention. The plate acknowledged his "Faithful Service to Christ and His Church" and the check for fifty-three dollars made him a "Dollar-A-Year-Man", one for every year of service.

Mr. Darnell's many years of service were recognized by the President of the United States in a letter in 1981. We join with the President in wishing Warren and

Dorothy all the best in their years of retirement.

\* \* \* \* \*



We were saddened to learn of the death this summer of Larry Hanby who served as Associate President of the International Society from 1969-1971. Larry was a graduate of Hope College in Holland, Michigan, and served in many capacities in the Texas Christian Endeavor Union. As a member of the Bruton Road Christian Church he was runner-up in the 1963 Endeavorer of the Year program sponsored by the International Society. Larry also served as editor of the Dallas District "ECHO," a member of the 1986 Dallas Convention Committee and worked one summer as Field Secretary of the Texas Christian Endeavor Union and also served as Vice-President of the state union.

Larry was a third generation Christian Endeavorer in the Hanby family. Our sympathy is extended to his family.



# The Response to Mercy

## Romans 12

*by Bob Laver, Associate Pastor  
Eastside Christian Church  
Albany, Oregon*

### INTRODUCTION

When I was in Bible college, final exams were always a source of anxiety. I would stay up late and study hard to prepare. One night I had stayed up all night to get ready for a final exam for the following morning. I studied until sunrise, and then went to bed to get a couple hours of sleep before my test. I forgot to set my alarm and overslept my final! I went begging to the teacher, and he let me take the test over again with no penalty. In other words, the professor showed me mercy. Our Lord shows us mercy all the time. We have eternal life in Jesus Christ. We have forgiveness of sins. He answers prayer. When the teacher gave me the test, I was grateful. That was my response to the mercy he showed to me. How do we respond to the mercy that God shows us? Our text, Romans chapter 12, shows us three responses to mercy.

#### **I. We Respond to God's Mercy with Sacrifice, verses 1-2**

We are commanded in the text to give our bodies as a sacrifice to our Lord. This could include giving of all of our talents and abilities. We give with sacrifice, which includes giving more, doing more, and being more than we are comfortable with. We have to serve more than the world does, love more than the world does, and make more of an impact than the world does. The world does not know what sacrifice means. The world does not know what it meant when our Lord gave His life on a cross for our sins. We remember

the story of the chicken and the pig, who wanted to combine their efforts to give the farmer eggs and bacon for breakfast. For the chicken, the eggs were an offering; for the pig, the bacon was a sacrifice. We need to give of ourselves in response to the mercy of God.

We must, however, be careful that this sacrifice is in accord with the Will of God. The sacrifices offered during the Old Testament times were of the best of the flock and were in all rights, perfect. Our service to our Lord must not be anything less. In order to do this, we must be transformed into the image of God. All too often, though, we want to conform to any image the world would set before us. We become like a chameleon, which changes to blend in with its surroundings. We must stand out, so that "our lights may shine and glorify our Father who is in Heaven." Our standard must be God's standard; our morals, the highest; and our love to our fellow men, far better than anything the world can offer. This is our best response to the mercy of God.

#### **II. We Respond to God's Mercy with Humility, verses 3-8**

Paul directs us, as he did the church at Rome, to not think more highly of ourselves than we should. All of us, I'm sure, are annoyed with the man who can break his arm patting himself on the back for all of his accomplishments. Such a man does not make a good leader, and does not respond to God's mercy because he does not notice it. His eyes are on himself. Any good leader must be a man of deep humility. This puts him in the right position with his Lord, and as

the text shows, affords him a high measure of good judgment. The reason for this is clear. If a man is putting the Lord and others first in all of his concerns and decisions, then surely his judgment will be the best possible. Humility sets the stage for us to be used for the Lord.

Humility is also a key factor in the working of Christ's body, the church. We are given gifts by the Lord to serve Him through the church. Christian Endeavor uses the motto, "For Christ and the Church," with good reason. You cannot serve one without serving the other. We are a church must use the gifts that the Lord has given us. In the exercising of these gifts, it is important to note that the Greek word for gift is "charisma," which means, "gift." The gift from God is something that man cannot give himself. It usually develops with the man's personality. We should not shy away from the term "charisma" just because some have placed an undue importance on tongues or healing. Paul gives us a list of some of the gifts we could have and clues as to how they should be used.

Some have the gift of prophecy, which is the ability to discern spiritual truth, and they should use this according to their proportion of faith. Others have the gift of serving. They receive true joy serving others in areas that others may not. Others have the gift of teaching. A proud teacher has no place in a Christian classroom! Some have the gift of exhortation, which means to encourage others. We are all challenged to do this in Hebrews 10:24-26, but some do it



well. Others have the gift of giving. This means the giving of money or possessions. We all should give, but some find true joy in doing so. Some people are leaders, and should practice this with diligence. Sometimes we take our servers and put them in as leaders when that is not where their gift lies. Problems could result, so care should be used as we work together. The last gift is mercy, or the gift of feeling the hurt of another and being able to truly minister to that need. It is easy to see how humility works to bring all of these gifts together to work in the body of Christ, called the Church. Paul compares the body of Christ in other Scripture to a human body, where the hand, and foot have different functions but work together. All are humble and submit to the head. So should the Church be. How sad it is when church members fight and fuss over who is more important or who is right over a small matter. Jesus dealt with this same issue with His disciples. They were fighting about who was greater. Jesus responded that in order to be first, you must be last. A leader must be a servant. What a picture of humility! This is our response to the mercy of God.

### **III. We Respond to God's Mercy with Love, verses 9-21**

The love must be real. It must never be phoney. It must be with a right heart, and sound motivation. Anything less will cheapen the image of our Father, in whose name we do these things. As we love others, we must be sure to meet their needs. This brings to mind a story about a group of men in a farming town that were gathered one evening for a prayer meeting. As the requests were being shared, it was brought out that widow Jones needed food and supplies as a recent fire had destroyed most of her possessions. All of the men bowed to pray for this need. Their prayer was disturbed by the sound of one of the

group leaving. They opened their eyes and ran to the window to see this man leaving with a pickup truck loaded with food and supplies. When they asked where he was going, he replied, "I'm going to be an answer to the prayer." In Matthew 25 the righteous and the unrighteous were divided on the basis of how they met the needs of those around them. Jesus further reminded them that as they did these things to the "least of these my brethren, you did them unto me."

This love can also be reflected in the time we spend in prayer for others. There is a phrase in our modern Christian thought that I wish we would strike from our thinking. That phrase is uttered when we feel we can't meet a need in a material way. Then we say, "Well, all I can do is pray for you." When we say that all we can do is pray, it puts prayer low on the list of services rendered, when in fact the BEST thing we can do is to pray. If that is all we can do, then we have done more than enough.

The rest of the chapter shows who we can direct this love to. The first is actually two groups of people—those who rejoice, and those who weep. When people are weeping, they are usually in the times of greatest need. Often times we wonder at the correct thing to say or the proper thing to do. What we need to do is just to be there, and sometimes we don't have to say anything. When my mother died, I can't remember who was there. Their presence was, and still is, very important to me. They likely spoke words of comfort and wisdom, but I cannot remember any of them. All I remember is that they were there. When people rejoice, the way to love them is to rejoice with them. When a new father shows a ton of pictures of his new son, feel his happiness with him. When someone buys a new car, gets out of debt, takes up a new hobby, or whatever brings them

joy, experience it with them even if you don't understand it. This cannot help but bring you closer to that person and thus, love him.

We are also commanded to love our enemies and those who persecute us. I will close this message with a story that not only illustrates this point, but also relates the entire theme of this chapter—the response to mercy. It tells of how a man responded even when no mercy was shown. It gives us a lesson of how to respond to God who shows us the greatest of mercies. A private had not been in the army very long when the drill sergeant took a dislike to him because of his faith in God. The soldier would kneel by his bunk each night to pray. The sergeant took every opportunity to harass him during this time. At last the sergeant one evening took his boots, still muddy from a day on the marching field, and hung them over the head of the praying soldier. When the private was in the middle of his prayer, the sergeant dropped the boots, hitting the young man in the head, knocking him over on the floor. The sergeant, still laughing, went to his barracks to bed. The sergeant woke the next morning to find his boots at the foot of his bunk, spit-shined to army perfection, by that same private. As a result, the sergeant later was won to the Lord.

### **INVITATION**

How do you respond to the mercies of God? If you are not a Christian, your response is to accept Jesus Christ as your Lord and personal Savior. If you are a Christian, then your response needs to be to live a life of sacrifice to the Lord, practicing true humility and showing love to all men. "For God so loved the world that he gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him, should not perish but have everlasting life." What mercy is that? HOW DO YOU RESPOND?





*Enlarge Our Vision  
Through Faith*

During this current biennium we have been living with the theme, "Lord, Our Vision Enlarge." As we draw closer to the end of these two years I want to call your attention to one aspect of the theme; namely, the subject of faith. My prayer for each of us is, "Lord, enlarge our vision through faith."

Only when we give ourselves to God will we become the persons God intends us to be. Faith is surrendering to God! The most glaring sin of a believer is the sin of not putting our faith into practice.

Please read Matthew 20:20-28 as a basis for what I want to share with you concerning enlarging vision through faith. In this Scripture passage, James and John, through their mother, asked Jesus for a special place in His Kingdom. In this encounter we can discover the qualities our lives will have when we have faith.

The first characteristic of a person with faith is seeking Christ's Kingdom first. James and John, no doubt, thought of the Kingdom in material terms at this time in their spiritual journey. Apparently they wanted to gain more than the other disciples. They wanted a privileged position. That made the other ten angry. They wanted that too! Jesus told them that they had misunderstood the Kingdom. His Kingdom is

# The President's Corner

*by Jack R. Rothenberger*

not to be understood in terms of how much you can get for yourself, but in terms of what you can give to God in service for others. He repeated His basic message: Seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness and all things needful will be yours. His Kingdom is a spiritual realm. A mark of a person who has surrendered his life to Christ (i.e. one who has faith) is seeking first and foremost to build up the Kingdom of God. To be a success in the eyes of the world is quite a different matter than to be a success in the eyes of God. The world points to success in terms of how much you get for yourself. Jesus talked about it in terms of how much you give to others for their well-being. The world talks about success and how many people you control. Jesus talked about how many people you can serve. The world talks about power and what it can force your way. Jesus talked about love and sacrifice that seeks to make a better world for all. The person of faith seeks to build, not his or her own kingdom but the Kingdom of God.

The second characteristic of a person with faith is giving the Living Christ everything He asks of us. Jesus told James and John that He had come to give His life for others. He wanted to know if they would do the same. "Will you drink of the cup I do and be baptized with the baptism I am?" They said they would, but at that moment they didn't know what He meant. Sacrifice was what Jesus called for and in time they did just that. When we surrender to Christ, the theme of our lives will be: Whatever You want I'll give! Christian Endeavor is "the whatever society" according to its pledge. "Trusting in the Lord Jesus Christ,

I promise Him that I will strive to do whatever He would like to have me do . . ." The person of faith is willing to serve Christ, whatever the cost, even if it means life itself. That is what we pledge to the Living Christ whenever we say the C. E. Pledge.

The third characteristic of a person with faith is becoming more and more a servant for the Living Christ. This was the main point Jesus sought to make with James and John and the other disciples. When they became part of His fellowship, they became servants of all. Jesus had said: "I have come, not to be ministered unto, but to minister." His very life was an example of service. He fed the hungry and healed the sick. He taught the truth and forgave sin. He climbed a cross to die for others because He loved them. Everything that Christ did was to help people become what they ought to be. He was a servant!

The disciples finally learned that. They went out to serve Christ by helping people. Down through the years the world has benefited from these servants of the Living Christ. No longer do we leave baby girls out in the street to die because they are unworthy of life. Hospitals have been built to minister to the sick and schools to minister to the minds of people. Child labor and slavery and segregation have been fought and opposed by the servants of the Living Christ. The hungry are being fed, the naked clothed, and the bound are being set free by servants of the Living Christ. Whenever and wherever there is need, the person of faith ought to be there in the name of Christ!

In brief, when we have faith, we surrender ourselves to God. From



that moment on, we will try to live our faith. The Kingdom of God will become first in what we try to do with our lives. Whatever Christ needs from us we will give. We will be servants of the Living Christ. We will be loyal to the Church of Christ and we will enjoy true fellowship with Christ's people everywhere. The Christian Endeavor principles serve as a basic example of faith: Confession of Christ, Loyalty to Christ's Church, Service for Christ, and Fellowship with Christ's People.

A good motto for Christian living is: "If you don't leave the world a better place than what you found it, what's the sense of your being here?" This is the task of Christian Endeavor . . . to leave the world a better place than we found it. We endeavor to make the world more Christlike.

ARE YOU HONESTLY TRYING TO DO THAT? You are not a person of faith until you confess the Living Christ as your Savior and Lord, work for Him, love His people, and uphold His Church. The motto of Christian Endeavor, "For Christ and the Church," indicates the purpose and scope of the entire movement—to exalt Jesus Christ and to work for the growth of the Church—His body on earth. A person with this kind of faith receives vision from God!

It is a wonderful privilege and responsibility to be people of faith engaged in the Christian Endeavor movement. Keep in mind that our objectives are: to lead young people (of all ages) to accept Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord, to bring them into the life of the Church, to sustain and train them for the service of Christ and His cause in the world, and to release them through all channels of human activity in the service of God and man.

My prayer for each of you is that God may continue to enlarge your vision by helping you to become people of ever increasing faith in the Living Lord Jesus Christ.

## Society Roll Call

Societies and unions which have become members of the International Society of Christian Endeavor through financial support of \$25 or more during June, July, August, September, and October 1984 are listed here. Each of these groups has received an enrollment certificate. Those groups which have contributed \$100 or more have received a gold seal certificate.

Groups are arranged alphabetically by state and province. Others who enroll will be listed in future issues.

### GOLD SEAL

Young Peoples Christian Endeavor, Mokuiaiku Congregational Church, Kailua-Kona, Hawaii  
 Illinois Christian Endeavor Union  
 North Holland Reformed Church, Holland, Michigan  
 Missouri Christian Endeavor Union  
 St. Andrew Presbyterian Church, St. Louis, Missouri  
 New York State Christian Endeavor Union  
 Woodstock Reformed Church, Woodstock, New York  
 North Carolina Christian Endeavor Union  
 Gladstone Christian Church, Gladstone, Oregon  
 St. John's Presbyterian Church, Devon, Pennsylvania  
 Parsons Primitive Methodist Church, Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania  
 Central Schwenkfelder Church, Worcester, Pennsylvania  
 Junior Christian Endeavor, Central Schwenkfelder Church, Worcester, Pennsylvania  
 Philadelphia County Christian Endeavor Longtimers, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
 Christian Endeavor Society, Avlon United Brethren in Christ Church, Bremen, Ohio  
 First United Brethren in Christ Church, Columbus, Ohio  
 Texas Christian Endeavor Union  
 Bruton Road Christian Church, Dallas, Texas  
 Christian Church of New Cumberland, New Cumberland, West Virginia  
 West Virginia Christian Endeavor Union

### HONOR GROUPS

Varick Christian Endeavor, A.M.E. Zion Hill Church, Fosters, Alabama  
 Walters A.M.E. Zion Church, Bridgeport, Connecticut  
 Northern Heights Christian Church, Lexington, Kentucky  
 Varick Christian Endeavor, Lomax Temple A.M.E. Zion Church, Detroit, Michigan  
 First Church of Evans, Derby, New York  
 Senior Christian Endeavor, Little Neck Community Church, Great Neck, New York  
 Westport Federated Church, Westport, New York  
 Mercer County (Pennsylvania) Christian Endeavor Union  
 Christian Endeavor, Breakneck Church of God, Connellsville, Pennsylvania  
 Youth Fellowship, Eastside Church, Hermitage, Pennsylvania  
 Senior High Christian Endeavor, Unity Presbyterian Church, Mercer, Pennsylvania  
 Junior Christian Endeavor, Roxborough Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
 Zion Alumni Christian Endeavor Society, Olivet Covenant Presbyterian Church, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
 First United Presbyterian Church of Portersville, Portersville, Pennsylvania  
 Faith United Presbyterian Church, Sharpsville, Pennsylvania  
 Young Adult Christian Endeavor, Jerusalem Chapel United Brethren Church, Churchville, Virginia  
 Senior High Christian Endeavor Society, Bethlehem Congregational Church, Disputanta, Virginia  
 Adult Christian Endeavor, Mt. Olivet United Brethren Church, Mt. Solon, Virginia  
 Christian Endeavor Societies, Mt. Olivet United Brethren Church, Mt. Solon, Virginia  
 Christian Endeavor Societies, Mt. Solon Christian Fellowship Church, Mt. Solon, Virginia  
 Christian Endeavor Societies, Christian Church of New Cumberland, New Cumberland, West Virginia



# MICHIGAN 85

The 58th International Christian Endeavor Convention will be held in Holland, Michigan, July 1-5, 1985. The convention theme is "Trusting Christ . . . I Promise." Holland is located on the shores of Lake Michigan not far from Grand Rapids. Sight-seeing in the area includes the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum, located in Grand Rapids, DeKlomp Wooden Shoe and Delft Factory, Windmill Island, and Dutch Village all located in Holland, and several area beaches and parks.

## ECONOMICAL PACKAGE PLAN

All sessions will be held on the campus of Hope College, Holland, Michigan. Economical "package plan" rates offer delegates five nights' lodging, Monday through Friday (two to a room) and all meals, Tuesday through Friday, at a very special rate of \$125. This cost does not include the registration fee.



— Send Your Registration Today —

International Society of Christian Endeavor  
1221 East Broad Street, P.O. Box 1110  
Columbus, OH 43216

Please register me for Michigan 85.

I enclose \$10 \_\_\_\_\_ Youth (19 or under) \$25 \_\_\_\_\_ Adult (over 19) \$10 \_\_\_\_\_ Booster  
(\$25 after February 2, 1985).

Rev., Mr., Mrs., Miss \_\_\_\_\_  
(Circle proper title)

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, and Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Church \_\_\_\_\_  
(Give full name and denomination)

Member of \_\_\_\_\_ Christian Endeavor Society

Union \_\_\_\_\_  
(Local) (State)

My responsibility in Christian Endeavor is \_\_\_\_\_

Age (if under 25) \_\_\_\_\_ Over 25, check here \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_